

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 GAC-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 /095 W

----- 075991

O P 160829 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1211

INFO DOD WASHDC PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

CNO PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

CINCLANT PRIORITY

CINCLANTFLT PRIORITY

COMSUBRON FOURTEEN PRIORITY

COMSUBLANT PRIORITY

COMLANTNAVFACECOM PRIORITY

COMNAVACTSUK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 05704

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: MARR, UK

SUBJECT: PIER AT HOLY LOCH

REF: (A) LONDON 1668 (B) CNO MSG 191716 Z APRIL 1973

(C) CNO MSG 142006 Z MAY 1973

1. ON BASIS OF TIMETABLE PROPOSED AND AGREED IN REFS
A AND B, EMBASSY AND NAVEUR HAVE BEEN PREPARING FOR
EARLY JUNE DEMARCHE TO MOD AND FCO ON SUBJECT PROJECT,
FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY DETAILED NAVEUR PRESENTATION TO
APPROPRIATE PARTIES WITHIN HMG. THIS APPROACH WAS
AGREED BY ALL PARTIES TO BE ONE MOST LIKELY TO PROVE
SUCCESSFUL WITH HMG, WHICH CAN EXPECT ENCOUNTER POLITICAL
PRESSURES AT LOCAL AND PERHAPS NATIONAL LEVEL AS RESULT
OF DECISION TO APPROVE AND SPONSOR PROJECT. EMBASSY
ALSO HAS BEEN APPREHENSIVE THAT FUTURE US NEGOTIATING
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CREDIBILITY COULD BE UNDERMINED BY SURFACING MAJOR NEW MILITARY PROJECT TOO SOON AFTER 4 APRIL SIGNATURE OF COST SHARING ARRANGEMENT. AGREED SCHEDULE IS CONSIDERED TO BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH POLITICAL, MILITARY AND BUREAUCRATIC DYNAMICS OF SITUATION.

2. ACTION OUTLINED PARA 1 OF REF C APPEARS INCONSISTENT WITH FOREGOING AGREEMENT AND RATIONALE IN THAT IT DOUBTLESS WOULD LEAD TO BRITS LEARNING OF PROJECT BY INFERENCE AND IN WAY MOST LIKELY TO GENERATE OPPOSITION TO IT. INFORMATION OF THIS NATURE PROVIDED " FOR PLANNING PURPOSES" DOES NOT OFTEN ESCAPE THE NOTICE OF INTERESTED MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL STAFFS. FURTHER, WE WONDER WHETHER THE 15-20 DAY LEADTIME INVOLVED JUSTIFIES DISREGARDING THE STATE- DEFENSE APPROVED PLACE AGREED EARLIER.

3. EMBASSY LONDON REMAINS CONVINCED THAT THE SCENARIO OUTLINED IN REF A AND APPROVED BY REF B GIVES US THE BEST CHANCE FOR BRITISH APPROVAL OF THIS PROJECT AND FOR ITS EARLY IMPLEMENTATION. REQUEST DEPT LOOK INTO MATTER URGENTLY AND ADVISE.

ANNENBERG

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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